

its position to other components in the vehicle to improve its functions and safety of use; these functions include movement and maneuver of the vehicle, movement of the turret, and pointing of the gun tube.

3. The Electronic Fire Control System (EFCS) commonly referred to as the Paladin Fire Control System (PFCS) is the major change for the Paladin M109A6 Howitzer from the manual fire control system used on the M109A5. This gives the howitzer the ability to operate over a widely dispersed area and to move and emplace using the on board fire control navigation and GPS system. The M109A6 can move and position within an assigned position area, process technical firing data, and fire a mission without relying on aiming circles and wire lines. The M109A6 can change position more frequently, an advantage against enemy fire. Such advancements give new meaning to the artillery's ability to move, shoot and communicate. In addition, the EFCS with embedded electronic diagnostics improves maintenance and repair functions by assisting in pinpointing faults.

4. The Defense Advanced GPS (Global Positioning System) Receiver (DAGR) is a lightweight (less than 2 pounds) hand-held or host platform-mounted, dual frequency (L1/L2), Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) based, Precise Positioning Service (PPS) device that receives and decodes the L1 and L2 signals-in-space which are transmitted by the NAVSTAR GPS satellite constellation. The DAGR provides real-time positioning, velocity (ground speed), navigation, and timing (PVNT) information, in stand-alone (dismounted) and mounted (ground facilities, sea, air, and land vehicles) configurations. The DAGR can support missions involving land-based war-fighting and non-war fighting operations. The DAGR can also be used as a secondary or supplemental aid to aviation-based missions which involve operations in low-dynamic aircraft, and as an aid to navigation in water-borne operations.

5. The M1156 Precision Guidance Kit (PGK) is a Global Positioning System (GPS) Guidance Kit with fuzing functions for the M795 and M549A1 155mm High Explosive (HE) Artillery Projectiles. The PGK corrects the ballistic trajectory of the projectile to reduce delivery errors and thus improves projectile accuracy. The PGK will effectively reduce target delivery error of conventional artillery munitions and reduce the number of projectiles required to execute a fire mission.

6. The 155mm M232A1 Propelling Charge (DODIC DA13), will be used in M109 series howitzers. The Modular Artillery Charge System (MACS) consists of two propelling charge module types, the M231 and the M232/M232A1, and their associated packaging. The system is compatible with all current and planned 155mm field artillery weapons.

7. The M82 Percussion Primer (DODIC N523) will be used in M109 series howitzers.

8. The International Field Artillery Tactical Data System is the international export version of the Army's Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS). It provides networked and fully automated support for the planning, coordination, control, and execution of fires and effects such as mortars, field artillery, rockets and missiles, and close air support. International versions are developed for each customer unique to the weapon and targeting systems in their inventory.

9. Field Artillery Ammunition Support Vehicle (FAASV) M992A2 this ammunition vehicle has no turret, but has a taller superstructure to store 95 rounds with a corresponding number of powders and primers. Until recently, much of the remaining inter-

nal crew space was taken up by a hydraulically powered conveyor system designed to allow the quick uploading of rounds or their transfer to the M109-series howitzer.

10. Heavy Equipment Recovery Combat Utility Lift and Evacuation System (HERCULES) Improved Recovery Vehicle—M88A2 recovers tanks mired to different depths removes and replaces tank turrets and power packs, and uprights overturned heavy combat vehicles. The main winch of the M88A2 is capable of a 70-ton, single-line recovery, allowing the HERCULES to provide recovery of the 70-Ton M1A2 Abrams Tank.

11. The A-frame boom and hoist winch of the M88A2 can lift 35 tons. The spade can be used to anchor the vehicle when using the main winch and can be used for light earth moving to prepare a recovery area. The M88A2 employs an auxiliary power unit to provide auxiliary electrical and hydraulic power when the main engine is not in operation. It can also be used to slave start other vehicles, as well as a means to refuel or defuel vehicles. The M88A2 can refuel Abrams tanks from its own fuel tank.

12. The Browning M2 is an air-cooled, belt-fed machine gun. The M2 fires from a closed bolt, operated on the short recoil principle. The M2 fires the .50 BMG cartridge, which offers long range, accuracy, and immense stopping power.

13. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

14. In a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems, which might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

15. A determination has been made that the recipient can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

16. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the recipient.

TRIBUTE TO ARNOLD POSTOVIT

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, it is a great honor for me to recognize a North Dakota hero who will celebrate his 100th birthday on August 20. Arnold Postovit of Tioga is one of our State's most treasured residents who has experienced many great moments in our State's and Nation's history.

Raised during the Great Depression on a farm near the town of Plaza, Arnold remembers days where the grasshoppers were so thick they blocked the sun. In an oral interview in 1999, this World War II veteran shared details about his military service.

Arnold graduated from Plaza High School and spent a semester at the University of North Dakota before deciding he wanted to be a pilot. This led him and a few friends to the Army recruiting center in Bismarck in the summer of 1940. With no openings in Army Air Corps units, he enlisted in the infantry and never left the 7th Infantry, 3rd Division.

He trained with a mortar unit in Washington State, going on maneuvers

and practicing boat landings on Puget Sound. In January 1941, he was transferred to Fort Lewis and was on leave in Tacoma on December 7, when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. In early 1942, he trained near San Diego for several months, which included desert maneuvers. Traveling by train to Virginia, it was in November 1942 when his battalion boarded the USS *Thomas Jefferson* and landed in North Africa 3 weeks later. There, he was among those who conducted night patrols around Casablanca. Following more training, Arnold and his division sailed the Mediterranean Sea toward Tunis to prepare for the invasion of Sicily in July 1943. His landing craft infantry came under heavy German machinegun fire as they came ashore. He also saw action in Palermo and Messina, Italy, where he remembers heavy fighting and the cold weather at Christmastime.

"We were young and tough," Arnold recalled in 1999. "There was a lot of rain and we got sick from being wet and from the dysentery that would break out."

His life would change after his unit landed behind German lines in Anzio, Italy, in January 1944. Hitler sent some of his best battle-hardened troops to push back this surprise attack by the Allied Forces. On February 6, German troops captured Arnold and a dozen other soldiers. He was transferred to a nearby POW camp that held many other American and British soldiers.

A few weeks later, trucks took him and other POWs on a 4-day trip to northern Germany to the Stalag 2B camp. After a few months, he and 16 other soldiers were taken by train to a working farm, where he did general farm work for nearly a year. In the spring of 1945, as Soviet troops invaded Germany from the east, Arnold and a thousand other soldiers were marched west across Germany. They came close to the North Sea and kept warm in nearby barns during the cold nights. After marching 600 miles, Arnold and some other soldiers saw an opportunity to escape to a nearby small town near the Elbe River on April 12. They hid in abandoned buildings and the next morning flagged down a small American plane that was flying over. They were told to stay where they were because American troops would be marching through later that day. When they connected with the Americans, the first thing the soldiers did was throw those thin and sick prisoners of war cans of C-rations to eat. Eventually, they were flown to Le Harve, France, and went to nearby Camp Lucky Strike, where released prisoners of war were taken to regain their health. Arnold was among other North Dakota soldiers who then sailed with thousands of others to Newport News, VA, on a converted transport ship.

Following his Army discharge, Arnold returned home to farm with his father, who by then lived near White Earth, ND. He planted the crops and

his father took care of the livestock. Married 6 years later, he and his wife Marjorie raised a family of five children. Although it was difficult to adjust after his wartime and POW experiences, Arnold made the best of his opportunities and cherished being an American. "After you lose your freedom, then you understand what freedom means," he said. "Americans are free, even if we sometimes think we aren't."

In May 2009, Arnold participated with other North Dakota World War II veterans in an Honor Flight that took them to the World War II Memorial and other sites in Washington, DC.

Arnold Postovit is one of 60,000 North Dakotans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II. Of those, nearly 2,000 gave their lives for our freedom in this largest and deadliest conflict in world history. With only some 500 World War II veterans still alive today in North Dakota, the heroism of every single one of them is appreciated more than ever.

Throughout his life, Arnold has embodied the best of the Greatest Generation. He has lived a meaningful life, sharing his story as a World War II soldier so the rest of us can better understand and appreciate the selfless service and sacrifice each and every veteran has made. On behalf of all North Dakotans, I wish Arnold Postovit a very happy 100th birthday on August 20 and many more years of health and vitality. As he celebrates with his family and many friends in Tioga on August 22, I honor him as one of North Dakota's most exemplary citizens.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO SUSAN ERLICHMAN

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the extraordinary career of Susan Erlichman, Esquire, the executive director of the Maryland Legal Services Corporation, on the eve of her retirement after 32 years of remarkable public service. Susan is a devoted public servant and tireless advocate for civil legal services for those who need them most in the State of Maryland.

The Maryland Legal Services Corporation—MLSC—is the state's largest funder of civil legal aid. Its mission, as established by the Maryland General Assembly, is ensuring that low-income Marylanders have access to reliable, productive, and worthwhile civil legal assistance by distributing and overseeing grants to nonprofits statewide. Since its creation in 1982, MLSC has distributed grants totaling over \$312 million. In turn, grantees have assisted Marylanders in more than 3.5 million legal matters, ranging from family to housing to employment to healthcare cases, in which they would otherwise have been hard-pressed to access legal aid.

Susan Erlichman's career with the MLSC spanned an incredible 32 years,

including 17 as the organization's executive director. During her tenure in that position, Susan oversaw the tripling of MLSC's annual budget, from \$6 million to \$20 million. She also helped to found a robust working relationship between the Administrative Office of the Courts and MLSC that significantly expanded Maryland's Judicare Family Law program and the number of residents it serves. Perhaps one of her greatest accomplishments, however, was pioneering an innovative program to remove barriers to employment in Maryland by placing civil legal aid lawyers in projects aimed at the fostering of more productive and prosperous workforces.

From the 2008 recession to our current-day COVID-19 pandemic, Susan's drive, tenacity, and compassion has been an invaluable asset to our state. Through the projects I have mentioned and the countless others that she has led, Susan has utilized her institutional insight and diplomatic skills to bring together a wide coalition of allies to support and strengthen civil legal services. Susan has been an incredible leader to MLSC staff, even during the hardest of times.

Access to justice is a significant, growing challenge in Maryland and nationwide that has only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. In most cases, low-income Americans receive inadequate or no legal help due to lack of available resources, even though they are eligible and entitled to this legal assistance. During the pandemic, the Legal Services Corporation—LSC—reported that 94 percent of grantees surveyed said they were providing services to clients who were newly eligible for legal aid during the COVID-19 pandemic. I credit Susan and the excellent work of MLSC with making it as easy as possible for me to advocate for Federal funding. Her work and that of her peers nationwide has generated bipartisan support in Congress that was significant enough to turn back an effort to disband the agency entirely in the last administration. There is no doubt that Susan's leadership has allowed MLSC to endure as a beacon of hope in the face of the surge in demand since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The MLSC is an organization near and dear to my heart. From August 1988 through June 1995, I was privileged to serve as its chair. Previously, I chaired a task force that produced an Action Plan for Legal Services to Maryland's Poor in January of 1988. Many recommendations from the action plan, such as conversion of the Interest on Lawyer Trust Account—IOLTA—program from voluntary to mandatory, were ultimately adopted. I enjoyed working with Susan, who coincidentally joined the organization in 1988, to implement the action plan and make other improvements. Although I moved on from MLSC a few years later, I was happy to know the organization was in such good hands. I am also con-

fident that Susan's successor, Deb Seltzer, will continue Susan's legacy and make great progress towards achieving the mission of the MLSC.

In announcing Susan's retirement, MLSC board chair Natalie McSherry had this to say: "Susan Erlichman is a giant among all leaders of IOLTA and other funding entities for civil legal services. We have been incredibly blessed to have had the benefit of her leadership for so many years." It is clear that Susan's impact on the Maryland Legal Services Corporation, and the State of Maryland for that matter, will be felt for years to come. For that, I sincerely thank her for her service to our State's citizens and wish her a happy and well-deserved retirement.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 3:51 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 3325. An act to award four congressional gold medals to the United States Capitol Police and those who protected the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1682. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; IFQ Program; Modify Temporary Transfer Provisions" (RIN0648-BK41) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1683. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United